

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1343**

---

**Introduced by Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic  
Materials (Ruskin (Chair), Tran (Vice Chair), Chu, De La  
Torre, Goldberg, Jerome Horton, and Strickland)**

February 22, 2005

---

An act to add Section 13269.5 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1343, as introduced, Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials. Irrigated agriculture operations: equipment.

Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board or a state regional water quality control board to waive waste discharge requirements if it makes a specified determination, and authorizes the state board or a regional board to impose an annual fee as a condition of waiver. Existing law requires the state board or a regional board, in establishing the amount of a fee that may be imposed on irrigated agriculture operations to take relevant factors into account, including, but not limited to, participation in an approved watershed management program.

This bill would deem water monitoring equipment used by an irrigated agriculture operation that participates in an approved watershed management program, for the purposes of that program, to be water quality control equipment for the purpose of determining eligibility for loans or grants related to the use of water quality control equipment.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 13269.5 is added to the Water Code, to  
2     read:  
3     13269.5. Water monitoring equipment used by an irrigated  
4     agriculture operation that participates in a watershed  
5     management program approved by the applicable regional board,  
6     for the purposes of that program, is deemed to be water quality  
7     control equipment for the purpose of determining eligibility for  
8     loans or grants related to the use of water quality control  
9     equipment.

O